

# Amigos de Bolsa Chica

## THE

# TERN TIDE



Since 1976

Spring 2007  
Volume 32, Issue 2

### Inside this Issue:

1

Welcome New Docents

2

Amigos Receives NOAA  
Award, Earth Day,  
Funding for Toilets  
Needed, Advertise in the  
Tern Tide

3

BC Groups Meet  
Moorlach Staff,  
Linear Park Update

4 - 5

Conference on Bolsa  
Chica Highlights

6

Amigos Calendar,  
Albertson's Community  
Partners Program

7

Ralph's Community  
Contribution Program  
President's Tern

### THE TERN TIDE

is published quarterly by  
Amigos de Bolsa Chica  
P. O. Box 1563

Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
(714) 840-1575 (Phone/Fax)  
[www.amigosdebolsachica.org](http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org)  
[info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org)

## Welcome Class of 2007 Docents!

Please welcome 7 energetic new docents who completed their training February 8. Every one of them has already signed up or helped with tours, cleanup day, the Conference, or Earth Day. Many thanks to the Amigos experts who were their teachers—Helen Higgins with History, Vic Leipzig with Natural History and Ecology and leader of the field trip, Barbara Sentovich with Birds and Endangered Species, and Dave Carlberg with Restoration and Management *and* doing double-duty helping Margaret as co-facilitator for the five 2-hour classes. Barbara Stewart and Jim Robins brought refreshments to the last class and presented docents with their vests and new name badges. (If your Name Badge is lost or damaged, a new one, designed in 2007 by Dave Carlberg can be ordered. Orders will be placed the 15th of each month as needed. Call Margaret for placing an order, then send a check for \$8.50 to the Amigos office.)

The active Community Education Committee meets regularly the 4th Thursday of each month. Contact Jennifer Robins (714-894-8381) or Margaret Carlberg (714-842-5619) for more information.



New docents at the January 28 field trip, from left to right:

Back row: Field trip leader Dr. Victor Leipzig, new docents Ray Evans, Dean Elder and daughter Natalie, and Benedite Ernotte, parent of new docent Valerie Nguyen.

Front row new docents Heather Rivera, Joyce Beardsley, Patty Overley, Nancy Kealer, and Valerie Nguyen.

## Amigos to Receive Sustainable Fisheries Award from NOAA

We have just been informed that Amigos de Bolsa Chica has received NOAA's Sustainable Fisheries Leadership Award for Coastal Habitat Restoration for 2006. This award recognizes significant achievements made in coastal habitat restoration, including the development of innovative approaches and community based support necessary to accomplish the ambitious goals inherent with these projects. ***This is an award which goes to every single member of the Amigos who have spent the past 30 years working on saving, preserving and restoring the Bolsa Chica Wetlands.*** Our work and achievements have been recognized as important to preserving our coastal resources. Every Amigos has been a part of this journey, and on June 7th in Washington D.C. this award will be presented to Shirley Dettloff and Thomas Anderson on behalf of the thousands of Amigos who worked to achieve this national recognition. We want to thank Senator Tom Harman for submitting the name of our organization to NOAA and his staff member Kevin Hooley who put together the submittal which won the award. Thanks to our members and thanks to Senator Harman and his staff. More will follow in the next Tern Tide.

## Earth Day at Bolsa Chica

Join the Bolsa Chica Land Trust and Amigos de Bolsa Chica for some "Fun in the Mud" at an historic Earth Day Planting on Saturday, April 21. Children are welcome and planting tasks will be age-appropriate. Meet at 9am in either the north or south parking lot of the Ecological Reserve (extra parking is available behind the Jack-in-the-Box at Warner & PCH). The Bolsa Chica Stewards will give a short orientation and then lead groups out to the restoration area. Everyone will get to enjoy ice cream afterwards.

This is an exciting opportunity to plant in the newly restored "Pocket Wetland" area. Come out and make a difference at Bolsa Chica! All participants must wear long pants and closed toe shoes; gloves are optional. Tools will be provided. For further information please contact Kim Kolpin with the Bolsa Chica Stewards at (714) 717-6304.

## Advertise in the Tern Tide

The Amigos board has approved a plan to underwrite the costs of our newsletter The Tern Tide (printing, postage and salary) by advertising "business card space." Our rates are \$50/issue or \$180/year for 4 issues. What is wonderful about this offer is that our newsletter is available to our members AND to our online visitors. Considering that we receive over 200,000 visitors a year to our website, this could be quite a bit of publicity.

So if you or someone you know is looking for a way to promote your business or specialization, this opportunity benefits both of us. Send your business card and payment to: Amigos de Bolsa Chica, P.O. Box 1563, Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Or, if you have a good resolution scan of your card in a jpeg, tiff or pdf format, you can email that to us at [info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org).

## Need for Funding of Public Toilets at Bolsa Chica

California State Lands Commission, the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve's landowner, has declined the Department of Fish & Games request to pay for portable toilets at the north and south lots. This means it will once again be up to the 3 non-profit organizations, Amigos, the Land Trust and the Conservancy to locate funding for what should be the responsibility of the State of California.

**We are therefore asking our membership to please make an extra, special donation towards the funding of 4 portable toilets, two each in the north and south lot, including one each of those handicap accessible.** Amigos de Bolsa Chica's portion of the rental and maintenance of the 4 toilets is \$1362 per year. Your assistance will go a long way towards keeping Bolsa Chica safe and clean and will be appreciated by everyone who enjoys visiting the Reserve.

We also encourage you to contact our State representatives to express your concerns to them about the State's lack of willingness to consider the health and safety issues of not providing public restroom facilities to one of their more heavily used Ecological Reserves. To leave this important issue up to non-profit education organizations has an impact upon our abilities to carry out our missions, which is to provide education, not sanitary facilities.

## **Bolsa Chica Groups Introduce Themselves to Supervisor Moorlach**

by Shirley Dettloff

Recently the three Bolsa Chica organizations met with Ian Rudge, a representative of Supervisor Moorlach's office. Representing the Amigos was Shirley Dettloff and Tom Livengood. Flossie Horgan and Nancy Donaven represented the Land Trust and Grace Adams the Conservancy. Each of the organizations had the opportunity to inform Mr. Rudge of the history and activities of their group.

We knew that during the elections, Mr. Moorlach took the opportunity to visit the Bolsa Chica. We felt that it was very important for Supervisor Moorlach to become acquainted with the work we all do at Bolsa Chica. It also gave us the opportunity to let his representative know that we still have a lot of work to do if we are to maintain the Bolsa Chica Wetlands as one of the newest and largest natural resources in Orange County. We had the chance to discuss the future Interpretive Center, the problems we are encountering with funding and how the county will play a large role in making sure that we will eventually have a structure where the history and significant wetlands facts can be presented. We let him know that funding from a state proposition was put aside for an Interpretive Center and if not used would go back to the state in 2008.

We also informed him of the need for a replacement bridge on Warner Ave. spanning the channel between Huntington Harbour and outer Bolsa Bay. He was not aware that the City of Huntington Beach is now studying the process of annexation of the entire Bolsa Chica into the city of Huntington Beach. Of course the County will have a significant role in this process as this area is now under county jurisdiction.

Also, we discussed the role of the county and its representation on the Bolsa Chica Management Task Force. Mr. Rudge promised to meet with Supervisor Moorlach and convey our information to him. Each group left materials with Mr. Rudge which will provide background information, current projects and future needs. We also suggested that Supervisor Moorlach attend the Bolsa Chica Conference on March 24 and we offered a tour to him and his staff at any time he felt would be convenient.

## **Linear Park Update**

by Dr. Vic Leipzig

For the past ten years, very little progress has been made toward completing the Harriett Wieder (Linear) Regional Park that abuts Bolsa Chica on the south and east. The County Board of Supervisors approved a general concept plan for the park, to include a permanent educational interpretive center. At the urging of the Amigos, the plan calls for the landscaping of the park to be primarily native vegetation.

On February 8, Terry Dolton and I met with the two top staff members of the Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks Department to see what we can expect next. Current park planning activities include design of a trail from the intersection of Edwards and Ellis, providing access from Central Park to the coast. Immediate improvements include a permanent restroom facility at the playground.

Of the 114 acres that the park will eventually encompass, the county still has acquired only about 37 acres. The remaining 80 acres of the park are irrevocably-offered to the County through an Irrevocable Offer of Dedication (IOD) and a Development Agreement. This includes 29 acres currently owned by the City of Huntington Beach, and 51 acres owned by Hearthside Homes; the IOD was received in June 2006 in conjunction with the final approval of Hearthside's Bolsa Chica development project. 24 acres of that is expected to be acquired in the near future, as soon as some above-ground pipelines are relocated. The remaining 56 acres are currently not available for park development because of the on-going oil operations and the County's concerns about liability for clean-up of the property. The oil leases permit continuation of operations until they are not economically beneficial to the lease holders. This is expected to occur in 2030 for 40 of the acres and 2050 for 16 of the acres.

Stay tuned as the details continue to unfold.

## Conference on Bolsa Chica: The Work Isn't Finished

On March 24, 2007 at the Waterfront Hilton in Huntington Beach, over 200 people attended the all day "Conference on Bolsa Chica," hosted by the Western Alliance for Nature, Amigos de Bolsa Chica and the Bolsa Chica Land Trust. The purpose of this tremendously successful event was to launch a capital campaign to fund an endowment for the stewardship of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. The funds will be held in trust by the Western Alliance for Nature for use by the Amigos de Bolsa Chica and the Bolsa Chica Land Trust to fund education and management oversight programs.

The Conference was the beginning of fundraising efforts for this endowment. Sponsors and contributions will continue to be sought. Matching grants will also now be sought. A capital campaign will commence in order to ensure community involvement in stewardship of this precious resource, the Bolsa Chica.

The core mission of the Western Alliance for Nature is the preservation of biodiversity by conservation of endangered and rapidly vanishing habitats; managing and restoring them to functioning ecosystems; and preserving endangered wildlife habitats to protect biodiversity as a global endeavor. Ecosystems are intricately linked in the web of life. Preserving biodiversity means conserving diverse ecosystems. That is why the WAN conservation programs span both the North and South American continents. WAN is now focusing on the maintenance of a critical habitat in the Northern Hemisphere – the Bolsa Chica, a Southern Californian coastal wetland ecosystem.

Many thanks to the Waterfront Hilton and the Robert Mayer Corporation for hosting the Conference and their assistance with underwriting much of the cost of putting on this event.

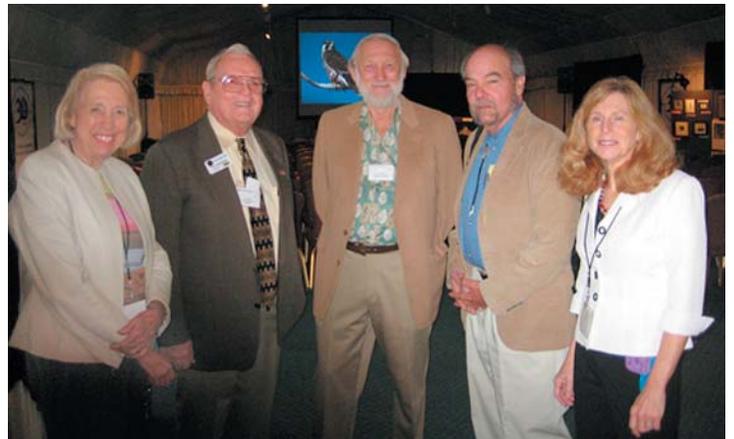
Thanks also to all of the organizations and corporations who sponsored the event:

**Non-Profit Sponsors:** Los Angeles Audubon, Sea & Sage Audubon, Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, Surfrider Foundation, Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust, Orange County Coastkeepers and Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks. **Corporation Sponsors:** Chevron, PG&E, SES, Port of Los Angeles, Port of Long Beach, Makar Properties, CIM, Tree of Life Nursery, Hearthside Homes, Woodfin Suites, Moffatt & Nichol, Action Embroidery, Lyon Management Group and JCC Homes. **Individual Sponsors:** Bob & Shirley Dettloff, Gerald & Patricia Chapman, and Joe Shaw, greetingsfromhb.com. **Silent auction donors:** King's Fish House, Duke's, Romano's Macaroni Grill, La Fontana Ristorante, Five Crowns Restaurant, La Parolaccia Restaurant, Hotel Healdsburg, REI, Barnes and Noble, Newport Theatre Arts Center, State Senator Tom Harman, Barbara Delgleize, Kay Dolton, Margaret Carlberg, Linda Moon, Al Vari, Village Nursery, Armstrong Garden Centers & Wild Birds Unlimited. **Artist donors:** Thomas Anderson, Connie Boardman, Adele Earnshaw, Susan Labouri, Rudy Gardea, Terry Miller, Jo Anne Romero, Diane Versteeg & Larry Wan. **Entertainment:** John Sotter, Acoustic Warrior. And many thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make the day run smoothly!



Joe Shaw

Amigos de Bolsa Chica Executive Director Alexia Swanepoel, Amigos President Thomas Anderson, Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, Amigos Treasurer Brian Westcott



Joe Shaw

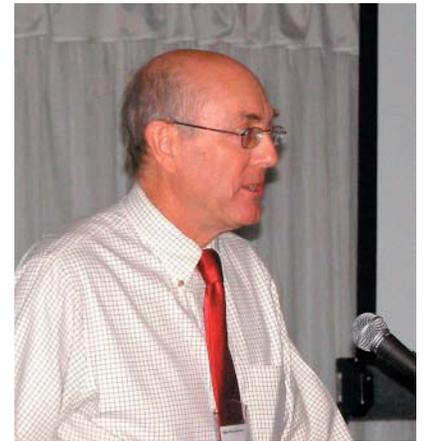
Amigos Board Member, former Coastal Commissioner & HB Mayor, Shirley Dettloff, current HB Mayor Gil Coerper, Amigos member Bob Dettloff, Coastal Commission Exec. Director Peter Douglas & Bolsa Chica Land Trust Exec. Director, Flossie Horgan



Honorable Fran Pavley David Carlberg

The day's first keynote speaker was former Assemblywoman Fran Pavley. She emphasized how global climate change will affect both snowmelt and saltwater intrusion into the Bay Delta. Unless things change, this will negatively affect our local water supply and many other aspects of life in California.

Dr. Vic Leipzig was next. He pointed out that no marsh - and no environmental group - is an island. He noted the continuing threats to Bolsa Chica, including sea level rise due to global warming, urban runoff, oil spills, invasive species, misguided restoration efforts, vandalism, pets and over usage.



Dr. Vic Leipzig David Carlberg



Lt. Gov. John Garamendi Tom Anderson

Lt. Governor John Garamendi was the lunch speaker. Echoing Fran Pavley's concerns about global warming's threat to all of California, he was optimistic that we have the desire, power and the technology to change our future.

Dr. Joy Zedler was the next speaker, sharing her experiences from her 30 years of restoration work at the Tijuana River Estuary. She spoke that coastal wetlands are highly dynamic ecosystems, changing dramatically and subtly depending on the wet and dry cycles typical of Southern California. She also recommended using spiny rush and boxthorn for natural fencing to keep the public off restricted areas.



Dr. Joy Zedler David Carlberg

The first of 2 panels in the afternoon was moderated



Government Panel Larry Wan

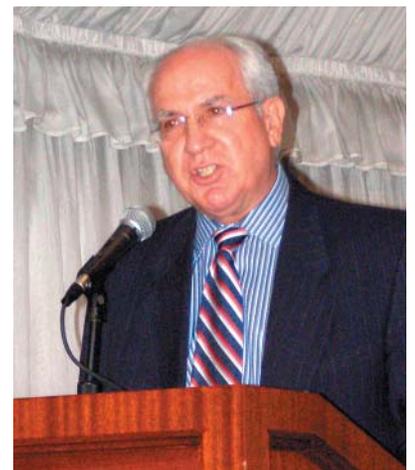


Tourism Panel Larry Wan

by Coastal Commissioner and Conference organizer, Sara Wan. She was joined by Peter Douglas, Executive Director of the Coastal Commission; Mary Small, Coastal Conservancy; Jim Trout, State Lands Commission; Bob Hoffman, NOAA; and Terri Stewart, California Dept. of Fish & Game. The focus of this panel was on the role of government in ecosystem preservation. Peter Douglas said that the biggest problem for the environment is public ignorance, apathy and governmental under-funding.

The final panel, moderated by Amigos' own Shirley Dettloff, addressed Bolsa Chica and the local economy. Steve Bone, Robert Mayer Corp; Debbie Cook, HB City Council Member; Amy Hooper, Wild Bird Magazine; and Doug Traub, HB Conference & Visitors Bureau joined her. The restoration will likely bring increased tourism, so the challenge is to keep it organized and ensure that we do not love the Bolsa Chica to death.

After dinner, Sara and Larry Wan were applauded for their collective environmental efforts and successes, and Board members of Amigos and the Land Trust were introduced. State Senator Tom Harman closed the exciting day sharing some of his many experiences during his 30 plus years of supporting all the efforts to preserve and restore the Bolsa Chica.



State Senator Tom Harman David Carlberg

## Amigos Calendar of Events

### April

Earth Day Celebrations –

April 21: 9 am to 12 pm – north & south lot – native planting & ice cream social, ABC and BCS

April 22: 9 am to 12 pm – north lot – earth day fair, ABC & BCC

April 25: Amigos Board Meeting, 7:00 pm

April 26: Education Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

### May

May 1: Local Advisory Task Force Meeting, 6 pm at BC Interpretive Center

May 5: Free Public Tour at Footbridge, 9:00-10:30 am start times

May 7: Docent Events: Docent Day @ Nixon Library

May 9: Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

May 15: Grant Writing Committee, 7:00 pm\*

May 20: Pick-Up Stix, 7041 Yorktown (Seacliff Village), 11:00 am-9:00 pm, bring flyer, portion of proceeds benefits Amigos

May 29: Amigos Board Meeting, 7:00 pm

May 30: Education Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

May 30: Docent Social @ Ballona Wetlands

### June

June 2: Free Public Tour at Footbridge, 9:00-10:30 a.m. start times

June 5: Local Advisory Task Force Meeting, 6 pm at BC Interpretive Center

June 7: NOAA presentation of Sustainable Fisheries Award to Amigos, Washington, DC

June 13: Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

June 19: Grant Writing Committee, 7:00 pm\*

June 27: Amigos Board Meeting, 7:00 pm

June 28: Education Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

### July

July 7: Free Public Tour at Footbridge, 9:00-10:30 a.m. start times

July 11: Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

July 17: Grant Writing Committee, 7:00 pm\*

July 27: Amigos Board Meeting, 7:00 pm

July 28: Education Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm\*

Amigos Booth @ OC Fair: July 2007 – Exact Date TBA

\*Call office for locations of committee meetings

**joe shaw**                      **714-858-0599**  
**info@greetingsfromhb.com**

**www.greetingsfromhb.com**

**greetings from**  
**huntington beach**

**#1 source for huntington beach news & opinion**

**G. Victor Leipzig, Ph.D.**  
*scientific & environmental writing*

**Skyline Communications**

17461 Skyline Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
Phone/FAX: (714) 848-5394  
email: vicleipzig@AOL.com

## Albertson's Community Partners Fund Donation Program

For those who regularly shop at Albertson's and/or Sav-On, this is a wonderful donation program for you. To register, you first must have a Preferred Savings Card. For those who need to apply for this card, please click on the link <http://www.albertsons.com> and apply for this card.

For those who already have the Preferred Savings Card, please click on the link <http://www.albertsons.com/cp/>. Follow the steps for shoppers to enroll in the donation program by entering your card number and your phone number. Next click on "Find a Partner." Under name, enter Amigos de Bolsa Chica, city as Huntington Beach and the state California. Click on "Find Partners." The Amigos de Bolsa Chica information will appear on your screen. Check the box and then click on "Add Selected Partners."

If you have any difficulty with your registration, please contact Alexia at the office (714) 840-1575. You do not need to be an Amigos member to sign up for any of our donation programs, so please encourage your friends and family to register as well. Without any money out of your pocket, your registration guarantees donation funds will be used for our educational programs.

## Ralphs Community Contribution Program

Ralphs has one of the most generous donation programs available for non-profits in California with a whopping 5% return on all purchases scanned with your club card! Many of you have previously registered for this program through our Amigos de Bolsa Chica office and we thank you. **Unlike our other programs, however, Ralphs requires that all supporters renew their contribution commitment every year. All participants must have a Ralphs Club Card to complete the online registration.** If you have not registered or do not know your Club Card Number, please call 1-800-660-9003 for assistance.

For those who already have the Ralphs Club Card, please click on the link <http://www.ralphs.com/ccprogram.htm>. Select the participant option and enter our NPO 82972, your club card number (located on the back of your card and begins with the number 2) and contact information. Please note: more than one club card per family can be registered, so be sure to register all cards! Once you are enrolled (or re-enrolled), swipe your Ralphs Club Card every time you shop and automatically 5% of your eligible purchases will be go directly to Amigos de Bolsa Chica!

If you have any difficulty with your registration, please contact Alexia at the office (714) 840-1575. You do not need to be an Amigos member to sign up for any of our donation programs, so please encourage your friends and family to register as well. Without any money out of your pocket, your registration guarantees donation funds will be used for our educational programs.

## President's Tern

by Thomas Anderson

March's "Conference on Bolsa Chica: The Work Isn't Finished" was an important – and successful – step in the evolution of Amigos de Bolsa Chica on many levels. After 30+ years of countless legal battles and victories, endless lobbying and educating the community, the formation of no less than 3 Bolsa Chica groups, the preservation of the lower bench of Bolsa Chica mesa and finally, the completion of the long-awaited restoration of 600 acres of lowlands, it must seem like...how can the work not be finished?

As we learned from our speakers at the Conference, no marsh is an island and no environmental group is an island. Coastal wetlands are, by design, a constantly changing ecosystem. Adding to this fact, we are in an era where the planet's climate will be changing and sea levels will be rising. How much and how fast depends on what we, collectively speaking, do next. The other wild card is that the Bolsa Chica is a fragile ecosystem surrounded by millions of people, many of whom are not aware of the significance of coastal wetlands.

We have before us, locally and globally, a stage set for change.

The question is how we will deal with it. Huntington Beach is a different city now than it was 30 years ago. The demographic has changed. Many people have moved on, many new people have moved in. There are a surprising number of people who know nothing about the Bolsa Chica. When Amigos merged with the Foundation last year, education became our #1 priority: getting the facts out about how important these wetlands are to the complex web of life that makes this planet function in a way to which we've grown accustomed. Even when Amigos began its crusade and was heavily lobbying all levels of decision-makers, it was really only educating them. What we taught the legislators and what we teach on our tours and in our off-site presentations is something that cannot be found in the average classroom. Our vision of a permanent interpretive center at the Bolsa Chica could also provide more education for more people.

In working closely with the Western Alliance for Nature and the Bolsa Chica Land Trust on the Conference, the similarities in our organizations' missions and concerns became obvious. In the scheme of things, our differences seem to me less important, more trivial and irrelevant to a unified voice that is needed to protect the precious resource that is the Bolsa Chica. In the long run it will not matter which organization did what or who did more; what *will* matter is that our collective efforts made a difference to the planet and to future generations of people.



NON. PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Huntington Beach, CA  
Permit No. 486

THE TERN TIDE  
Volume 32, Number 2  
Amigos de Bolsa Chica  
P. O. Box 1563  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
(714) 840-1575 (Phone/Fax)  
www.amigosdebolsachica.org  
info@amigosdebolsachica.org

### AMIGOS DE BOLSA CHICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I support the specific and primary purpose of Amigos de Bolsa Chica, which is to advocate the preservation, restoration and maintenance of the Bolsa Chica, to encourage the public acquisition of all the wetlands and sufficient surrounding open space to create a viable ecosystem, and to provide education about the importance of wetlands.

#### ANNUAL DUES

- \$ 20 Individual
- \$ 30 Family
- \$ 50 Patron
- \$ 75 Sponsor
- \$100 Sustaining
- \$300 Life Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Fund operational expenses

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed

Please check if you are interested in volunteering for:

Office assistance \_\_\_\_\_ Community Education \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Grantwriting \_\_\_\_\_

All contributions to Amigos de Bolsa Chica are tax-deductible as allowed by law under IRS Code Section 501(c)3.  
No goods or services were provided in consideration of this gift.